

The Washington Times.

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Beautifying the Capitol.

The Work of Completing the
Building Should Be Pushed.

Chairman Cannon takes one's breath away by the liberality of his proposals for enlarging and beautifying the Capitol. Not that we find fault with him—no, not that! On the contrary, we think that—to use a sporting term—he is striking the right gait. It's only, in the time-honored and immortal language of the spinner, when the "psychological moment," long looked for, arrives at last, "so sudden."

Speaking seriously, the completion of the Capitol Building is desirable from every point of view. It is not creditable to a Government like ours that it should tolerate a minute longer than is absolutely necessary the incongruity of difference in the building material between the main part of the structure and its wings.

It does not look well—in fact, it looks poverty-stricken—to find no bas-relief over the portico on the House side.

It is nothing short of disgraceful that the terraces have remained for years without the bronze urns and lamps designed for them.

It is positively shocking to see the rotunda in the condition in which it has been permitted to remain for nearly thirty years—with an incomplete frieze (a sham bas-relief in the bargain) and a rickety scaffolding suspended against the wall, threatening the lives of passers-by below.

These and "other things too numerous to mention" the Cannon proposals are to do away with. The House adopted the proposals yesterday, and there is reason to believe that the Senate—always more liberal in these respects than the co-ordinate branch of Congress—will not withhold its assent long.

The work of completing and adequately beautifying the interior of the Capitol cannot be too promptly undertaken or too energetically pushed to conclusion.

Obstructionists Routed.

Great Importance of the New Jersey Steel Trust Decision.

The decision just delivered by the New Jersey court of errors, dissolving the injunction granted by Vice Chancellor Emory in the Hodge case, removes the last barrier to the conversion by the United States Steel Corporation of \$200,000,000 of 7 per cent preferred stock into 5 per cent bonds, and the corporation is accordingly now free to carry out its program. It is a matter for general congratulation in the financial world that any attempt made to impute bad faith in the conduct of so important an organization as the United States Steel Corporation should have met so decided and unanimous refutation by the most important court in New Jersey.

While Wall Street has never doubted that the decision of the court would be as it was, indeed, handed down, any such allegation as that made by Mr. Hodge must have a tendency to disturb public confidence in the great enterprises of which the Steel Corporation is a splendid type. Organizations of this character, with their immense ramifications involving vast and many interests, can only exist through an absolute public confidence in the men who direct them. To seek to unsettle this confidence without due grounds, or to serve a private end, is a very serious matter. The New Jersey decision is an event of first importance in constructive

Appendicitis Spreading?

If So, Imagination Has Multiplied
the Sufferers From This Malady.

An eminent surgeon, speaking recently with reference to appendicitis, declared that many patients who were operated on were not really suffering from the complaint at all, but had worried themselves into the belief that they were, and could not be pacified until the operation had been performed.

This is one of the common results of attracting popular attention to a particular malady. The general discussion of its symptoms leads impressionable people to imagine that they feel them, and the genuine malady may be so successfully counterfeited through the action of the mind upon

the body that the individual himself is completely deceived, and his attendant physician also may be misled.

It is only within a few years that appendicitis, under that name, has been talked about. But the disease itself is of great antiquity. It is even said that a recent post-mortem upon a mummy brought from Egypt established the fact that the unfortunate must have died of appendicitis at least two thousand years ago.

Up to about 1898 cases of this malady figured in hospital reports as perityphlitis, and they were comparatively infrequent. Recent English statistics show a remarkable increase in the number of cases. The malady is by no means limited to people of wealth, but figures conspicuously in the public hospitals where the poor are treated.

In one London hospital in 1900 there were 161 cases, as compared with 35 ten years before; and in another there were 122 cases, where ten years before there were but 3. One cheering fact is disclosed by the statistics. As the disease becomes more prevalent, it is also better understood.

In these two hospitals, out of 185 cases surgically treated, only ten had a fatal result.

A Silly Roorback.

Not a Single "Rockefeller Telegram" as Yet Produced.

Though more than three days have passed since the charge was for the first time publicly made that either John D. Rockefeller himself or men associated with him in the management of the Standard Oil Company had sent telegrams to Senators urging, in fact directing them, to "kill" pending anti-trust legislation, not a scintilla of evidence tending to show the charge to be true has been adduced.

No less than nine Senators—and some of these were specifically mentioned—were said to have received these dispatches. Whenever questioned upon the subject these nine Senators vigorously denied any knowledge of the matter. No one connected with the corporation accused of an attempt to "debauch" Congress, as far as we are aware, dignified the story by a denial. Up to the hour of going to press not a single one of the alleged telegrams has been produced.

We hold no brief from the Standard Oil Company, and repeat what we said yesterday, that that company has enough sins to answer for without being called upon to controvert the proposition involved in this silly roorback, that its managers are a set of blooming idiots. What we desire to point out here is that in this year of grace nineteen hundred and three, and in a country of almost universal intelligence, there can be found otherwise reputable newspapers and presumably responsible news agencies to put such rubbish on the wires and lend the authority of their names to palpable falsehoods.

By the way, it might be interesting to trace the origin of this attempt to hasten Congress action. In whose fertile brain, and in which particular cell of that brain, was this scheme first evolved?

The New Department.

It Will Have an Ample Field and
Accomplish Many Useful Labors.

Without any special flourish of trumpets a new executive department has been ushered into existence. A new post of honor and dignity under the Federal Government has been created. A ninth seat has been provided about the President's council board.

A generation ago an enlargement of the Cabinet would have been hailed as an event of prime political importance. It would have put within the gift of the Administration another great political prize. And in bestowing that prize the President would have been governed by the collective advice of party leaders, by party exigencies, or party hopes.

Today this additional Cabinet post is created without in the least upsetting the equilibrium of politics—without precipitating a headlong rush for the new dignity. As has been understood for some time, the new portfolio is not to be made the means of paying off old political scores, or of underwriting new political mortgages. It is to be disposed of without a thought of compensating this group of States or that, of maintaining or repairing some fanciful geographical balance.

In other words, in the selection of a head for the Department of Commerce and Labor, political considerations will no more govern than they did in its organization by Congress

through a bargain-counter raid on the other eight over-laden departments.

The latest comer in the Cabinet circle starts life with a clearly defined field and a fairly adequate equipment. The labors it undertakes are important, and will continue to increase in importance. Immigration, navigation, statistics, commerce, labor, census—these give it a jurisdiction which is sure to widen. Starting full-grown and many-sided, it has an advantage of departments like that of Agriculture, created from a single parent stem. Its ratio of expansion will therefore probably be even greater than that of the rapidly growing department which it succeeds as junior member in the Cabinet circle. It will not suffer long from disability to make its needs and wishes known, or to impress those needs and wishes on an appreciative Congress.

We welcome the creation of the new department as a timely step toward better organization in the Government service, and we predict for it a career both of wide activity and of eminent usefulness.

The third class of the Naval Academy has unanimously agreed to Captain Brownson's demands that hazing of the fourth class men be stopped. This is most considerate on the part of the young gentlemen, no doubt; but we wonder what would have happened if they hadn't.

Washington has every reason to be proud of the work done by its symphony orchestra under the leadership of Mr. de Koven. Such an organization does as much, and more, to uplift public taste, sustain a high standard of ideals and stimulate the love of all that is beautiful than a dozen pretentious libraries. It would be a pity were it to fail. But it isn't going to.

The Sultan of Morocco has written a letter to the "venerable Vizier John Hay," announcing his intention of sending an exhibit to the St. Louis exposition. The Sultan evidently has the "Arabian Night's Entertainments" confused with "Little Breeches" and "Jim Bludso."

Physicians hold crowded street cars responsible for spreading the epidemic of the grip. Passengers thus afflicted should be compelled to check their hats at the ticket seller's window.

Each new rumor of Secretary Root's purpose to lay down the burdens of his office serves to call fresh attention to the magnitude and value of his services—to the length and breadth of the gap in President Roosevelt's Cabinet which his departure would entail.

Women contemplating matrimony are advised by "one of the sect" not to take men at their own valuation, but to probe into their lives. Would this person cut off one of the most pleasurable of the post-nuptial experiences? What would married life be if there were no questions left to ask?

TALK OF THE DAY.

Cressida—There is among the Greeks Achilles, a better man than Troilus.
Panderus—Achilles? a drayman, a porter, a very camel.
Cressida—Well, well.

It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles And see the great Achilles, whom we knew.

Andrew Carnegie is again Homer. The capitalist declared war openly against the poet at the inauguration of the new president of Stevens Institute. But let us quote his very words as reported, and no doubt faithfully reported.

"I think for one thing that it would be a very good thing for the universities to banish the antique heroes upon which they have been feeding their students for centuries. It might have been very well in past ages to delfy such soundreels as figure in Homer, but that time has now passed. [Laughter.] There have been enough heroes and heroines in this country to write about and perpetuate without filling the minds of students with extravagant tales of mythical pagans. A few days ago I picked up a book. It proved to be Homer, and I tried to get some enjoyment in re-reading it. It was no use. When I read of Achilles praying for the success of his country's enemies because his own schemes went wrong, it was too much for me, and I put the book away."

These are bitter words against our old friend Achilles—Ash-heels, as Bret Harte's man used to call him. But for a long time there have been differences of opinion about him, as may be seen by the quotations at the head of this column, or by turning to the strange and fascinating stories told by post-Homeric gossip-mongers. Men have fiercely disputed concerning his birth, life, death and present condition.

Homer landed him safe in Hades, where Ulysses saw him, and Achilles, in doleful dumps, told him he had rather serve a swain for hire on earth than sway the imperial throne of all the dead. Others put him on the Island of Achillea with Iphigenia, Medea, or Helen of Troy for wife; and Philostrate says: "Such strangers as landed who would not set sail in the day time were obliged to pass the night on board of their ships, where they were visited by Achilles and Helen, who caroused with them, and sang not only their own amours, but the verses of Homer."

Pleasant evenings on the island, for it is also said that those who sailed by this coast heard music which filled them with admiration intermixed with horror; and also heard a neighing of horses, a clashing of arms, and the cries of soldiers engaged in battle. But we are getting away from Mr. Carnegie, the indefatigable friend of architects.

Will he make princely gifts to universities on the condition that Homer must go? Is resentment deep-rooted in his breast, or was the speech as the bubbling over of a moment?

THE WORLD OF POLITICS—GOSSIP, VIEWS, AND INCIDENTS.

North Carolina Comes to the Front With a New Presidential-Vice Presidential Combination—Significance of Governor Odell's Visit to Washington—Platt, Odell, and Roosevelt—Mr. Mudd Renews His War on Senator McComas.

New National Ticket.

"Fairbanks and Pritchard." This is the latest combination for a national ticket offered to the Republican voters of the country for their suffrages in 1904. The presentation of these names for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominations, respectively, comes, it is true, from a somewhat obscure source, yet it is not without a degree of significance.

The author of the Fairbanks-Pritchard ticket suggestion is the editor of the "North Carolinian," the leading Republican newspaper of the Tar Heel State, the chief owners of which are the Hon. E. C. Duncan, collector of internal revenue for the eastern district of North Carolina, and the Hon. I. M. Meekins, postmaster of Elizabeth City, N. C., where the journal mentioned is published.

Both are, of course, Federal officeholders under the present Administration, an administration whose chief, if they are sincere, they desire to displace with the Hon. Charles Warren Fairbanks, Senator from Indiana. Both are the avowed friends of Senator Pritchard, and well they may be, for it is by reason of the Senator's influence that they are now drawing Government salaries. Duncan, in fact, is so trusted a follower of the Senator that he is entrusted with the distribution of the minor Federal patronage for all of the eastern portion of North Carolina, and Meekins was but recently given supervision over the mail coming into and going out of Elizabeth City.

Southern Ingratitude.

These favors have been bestowed upon them by the present occupant of the White House through the good offices, of course, of Senator Pritchard, but now they smite the hand that feeds them, and declare their preference for President to be the attenuated statesman from the sycamore shaded banks of the Wabash. That the senior Senator from

Hoosier land is inviting the Presidential horset to construct its nest in his millinery is well known, and the suggestion of his nomination along with that of Senator Pritchard's for the Vice Presidency in what is unquestionably a Pritchard paper voicing Pritchard's sentiments is grounds for the suspicion that perhaps Senator Fairbanks may be making an effort to ally himself with the "illy white" organizations of the South in the hope of capturing their votes in the next national convention, especially in view of the feeling among certain white Republicans of the South against the President.

At any rate, it is a noteworthy fact that two Federal officeholders have launched a ticket antagonistic to the present administration, and it all goes to show that the handling of the Southern delegates will be much more of a problem in the next convention than it has been before for a number of years.

Friends at War.

Too much significance cannot be attached to the politico-social conference which the Hon. Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., is having with the President. That there is a strain of discord in the melodies produced in duet by the soft sweet singing of the Hon. Thomas Collier Platt and the tuneful pipings of the Hon. Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., can no longer be successfully denied. Both have sung of "peace, peace," but all New York politicians know that there is no peace. Throughout their music there is heard in undertone low mutterings out of harmony with the song.

Let no one be deceived. Senator Platt and Governor Odell are not the stanch political friends they would have the outside public believe they are. Odell, forgetful of the fact that it was Platt who made him politically, now seeks to displace his creator, and become greater than he. He would himself become the boss of New York State politics, to the end that he may have a third term as

governor, and be in line for the Presidential nomination way off in 1908.

The governor has his eyes fixed upon the future, for he is yet a young man and ambitious. It is the duty of the President to harmonize the differences between Platt and Odell, not so much, perhaps, for Odell's sakes, as for his own.

The Administration Takes Precautions.

The Hon. Theodore Roosevelt is a wise man, and he has added to his store of knowledge in the time he has been a resident of the White House. He knows, as everyone else knows, that the Hon. Thomas C. Platt, who forced upon him the Vice Presidency in the hope of ending his political career, is not his warmest friend, and would prefer to see some other man in the White House than its present occupant. But Platt is a power and must be placated; it would not do to permit a rupture to occur in the Republican organization in the Empire State as a preliminary to a Presidential canvass.

Unless there is a wonderful and unexpected change of political sentiment within a twelvemonth, New York State will be doubtful in the next campaign. As a gubernatorial candidate fresh from the triumphs of war with the laurels of victory still upon him, and with a Republican majority of more than a quarter of a million two years before, the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt carried the State by less than 18,000. Last fall the Hon. Benjamin B. Odell carried it by but little more than 8,000. Hence it is apparent to the President that the slightest disturbance in the Republican ranks would swing New York's thirty-nine electoral votes into the Democratic column.

It is in this condition, then, that the Administration finds it necessary to exercise extraordinary precautions not to offend anyone, but, on the contrary, to bring every influence to bear toward adjusting differences and establishing harmony. To that end is the Hon. Benjamin B. Odell in conference at the White

House with the President, and much may depend upon the success or failure of the harmony effort.

Mudd a Fighter.

The Hon. Sydney E. Mudd has thrust another thorn into the already bleeding side of his arch-enemy and political rival, the Hon. Louis E. McComas. He has taken a hand in the fight to have an additional judge appointed for the fourth United States judicial circuit, and to have the provision made now rather than to defer the matter for two years, or until Senator McComas retires from the Senate and may desire to step into another easy Federal job.

Mr. Mudd has introduced in the House a bill identically similar to that introduced in the Senate by Senator Simmons of North Carolina in the hope that if the judgeship is created his present colleague, Senator Pritchard, would be appointed to the place, and which measure has been held up by Senator McComas, who is said to desire the judgeship for himself in case he is not returned to the Senate.

The Representative from St. Mary intends to push the measure, and is especially prompted to do so by the fact that there is urgent need for the appointment of an additional judge in this circuit. While he is not particularly anxious to have the appointment go to Senator Pritchard, he is especially desirous that Senator McComas shall not have an opportunity to don the ermine. He believes that inasmuch as the southern and western sections of the circuit are represented each by a judge that the third appointee should be a Baltimore lawyer, especially as Maryland provides a large portion of the business of the court. This is but another brief chapter in the history of the Mudd-McComas vendetta, and all because it is quite impossible to have two leaders in Republican politics in Maryland, especially when the two aspirants for leadership have radically different ideas as to how the rank and file should be led.

IN THE COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD.

The Emperor of Abyssinia Severs Relations With France's Envoy—An Indiscreet Diplomat's Career—The French Courts Refuse to Honor a Prerogative Asserted by the Sultan of Turkey—King Edward and the Duke of Orleans.

Minister Legarde's Dismissal.

Emperor Menelik's action in breaking off relations with France's envoy, M. Legarde, and in expelling him from the Abyssinian capital, is far more likely to result in the disgrace of the plenipotentiary than in war. M. Legarde has been known as the most foolish diplomat in the service of France, and if he has been kept so long at his last post it has been because he knew the language, possessed experience of the country, and, moreover, because it was difficult to get any suitable man to submit to such an exile as the mission to the court of the Negus entails.

To give an illustration of the foolishness of M. Legarde, I may mention that on the occasion of one of his visits to France during the presidency of Felix Faure he suddenly blossomed forth as "Duke of Entoto," a title which he caused to be inscribed on his visiting cards in conjunction with his rank in the diplomatic service, namely that of "envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the republic of France."

In response to inquiry, Legarde explained that the dukedom of Entoto was an Abyssinian peerage and had been conferred upon him prior to his departure on leave by Emperor Menelik. Subsequent investigation proved that there was no such thing as a "dukedom of Entoto," that there are no nobiliary titles or dignities in Abyssinia, and that all Menelik had done had been to confer upon Legarde the honorary rank of "ras," or "chief," in the same manner as upon the other foreign envoys at his court, with the object of giving them a certain standing among his dusky subjects, ignorant of the prerogatives of diplomatic representatives.

The interpretation of "ras" (of whom there are thousands in Abyssinia) as "duke" was entirely Legarde's own, and he was speedily ordered by the department of foreign affairs at Paris to drop the ducal title, of which no end of fun was made by the French press. The authorities at the Quai d'Orsay pointing out to him that in the first place his dukedom was spurious and therefore bound to bring ridicule, not only upon himself, but also upon his office, and that, moreover, even if the dukedom had been authentic, it was highly improper for an envoy of the French republic to accept a title of nobility from the sovereign to whose court he was accredited.

What rendered the French government additionally sour about the matter at the time was that just then the Negus had granted all sorts of material advantages to Great Britain, for which France had nothing to show but this laughable "dukedom of Entoto."

Menelik Not to Visit Djibouti.

The expulsion of Legarde from the Abyssinian capital follows the resolve of Emperor Menelik at the last moment to abstain from visiting the French Red Sea port of Djibouti in connection with the opening of the Djibouti-Harrar Railroad. Legarde had made much capital at Paris of the Emperor's visit to Djibouti, so much so that the French government had arranged to send two or three first-class cruisers to the port in question in honor of the occasion. Consequently when at the last moment the Negus declined to go, it left the envoy in a very foolish position in the eyes of the French government.

The Emperor, who is a very strict observer of Lent, gave as an excuse for his refusal to go to Djibouti that even under the most favorable circumstances he would be unable, if he went, to get back to his capital before the beginning of the penitential season, and, therefore, preferred to delay his visit until the autumn. The real truth of the matter probably is that Menelik found that Legarde's object was to place him at Djibouti in the light of a vassal of France and as under her protection.

Be this as it may Legarde seems to

have completely lost his head. He cabled to Paris that the Emperor's action was due to British intrigues, and thereupon stormed and railed at the Negus in such a fashion that the latter finally broke off relations with him and forced him to leave the capital.

A Noted Bulgarian.

No obituary of ex-Premier Karaveloff of Bulgaria, who died last Sunday at Sofia, makes reference to his widow, one of the most remarkable women of Southeast Europe, who for twenty years past has gone by the name of "Katherine of Bulgaria." She is a school teacher by profession. During her husband's tenure of the premiership she continued her avocation, and every morning when he left home to attend to his duties as prime minister, she took her departure for the public grammar school to assume her place as one of the salaried teachers. She has been repeatedly imprisoned and tried on charges of treason and lese majesty and entertains the most profound and undisguised contempt for Prince Ferdinand, realizing that if he appointed her husband as premier it was only in hope of saving a tottering throne. For she was devoted to her husband and never forgets that the latter was kept for years in prison by Ferdinand, and was repeatedly flogged and subjected to torture until at length the foreign envoys at Sofia interfered in his behalf.

Sultan's Claims Denied.

The family laws of the reigning houses of Europe, to which such frequent reference has been made in these letters, do not "run" abroad. This has just been established by the French tribunals. The Sultan of Turkey through his ambassador at Paris applied to the French courts last week for the exhumation of the remains of his brother-in-law, Mahmoud Pasha, from a tomb in the Mohammedan portion of the Pere Lachaise Cemetery and for their transfer to Constantinople, in defiance of the testamentary directions of the deceased and the wishes of his two sons, who make their home in France.

The Ottoman ambassador based his plea on the fact that the Sultan was the absolute master of the members of his own family, both at home and abroad, and that he had therefore a first right to the body of his dead brother-in-law, and to the obedience of the dead man's sons—that is, of his own nephews. This argument was denied in the most positive manner by the French tribunals, the proceedings before which once more called public attention to the fact that Mahmoud Pasha's widow, the Sultana Senah, was kept in close captivity at Constantinople by her brother Abdul Hamed, the ruler of the faithful.

A Chilly Royal Visit.

It seems that the reception of the Duke and Duchess of Orleans by King Edward and Queen Alexandra at Buckingham Palace was of the most formal and chilly description, all the principal members of the royal household being in attendance, so as to deprive the interview of anything of the character of a private and affectionate encounter between near relatives. Indeed, the special honors conceded to the Duchess of Orleans were designed to show that if the Duke was received at all it was not as a prince of France, or the head of the House of Orleans, but as the husband of an Austrian archduchess, who is at the same time through her mother a member of that Coburg family of which King Edward is the virtual head and chief.

The visit was a very brief one, and it has not been returned as yet by the King and Queen, although according to the etiquette of courts it should have been returned the very same day. In one word, while the King has put an end to the ostracism to which the Duke has been subjected for several years past, there is no resumption of the former cordial and cousinly relations.

MARQUESE DE FONTENAY.

TURMOIL IN THE BALKANS.

Causes of the Present Menacing Disturbances in Macedonia.

In the news transmitted from Europe regarding the troubles in Turkey it is generally assumed that Russia is eager to seize the opportunity to end the rule of the Sultan at Constantinople. There are reason why this should not be the case at the present moment. The pre-occupations of Russia in Manchuria and the Far East generally, and in Persia, where she is playing for a great stake, make it imperative that there should be as little disturbance as possible in the political conditions in the Balkan peninsula now.

A violent upheaval in European Turkey that would bring about intervention from several quarters would probably be regarded with less favor by the Russian government than by any other; and it is for that reason that in the Russian and Austrian notes to the Porte calling on it to institute reforms in Macedonia the demands are moderate in scope and form.

The danger menacing European peace today is not Russian ambition, but the proverbial reactionary policy of the Sultan and the hot-headed leaders of the Bulgarian revolutionists. The difficulty which the Russian and Austrian governments now face is to overcome the one and suppress the other without bringing on an outbreak.

As to the Bulgarian revolutionists in Macedonia, they care little, probably nothing, what complications their actions may produce, for they have much

to gain and nothing to lose by bringing matters to a final issue. Whatever the end of an insurrection might be, history has taught them that the recession of a wave of Turkish domination in Europe has never been followed by its return, so that they feel sure that if they can force an armed intervention they will get rid of the Turk.

Whatever the ulterior ambitions of Russia, and that they include the domination of the Bosphorus in some form one day cannot be disputed, the present is not the moment she would choose for a disturbance of the peace. It is rather to the west side of the Adriatic that one must look for the source of much that is now happening in the western Balkans.—New York Sun.

TWO YOUTHS.

One youth perceived the star of commerce gleaming strange;
To him it was a beacon and he followed on.

A second youth perceived all stars within
in night's range,
And sought their secret marvels till the night was gone.

The first found wealth, the dearest of earth's treasures bought;
The other shivered off in winter's violence.

Nor knew that master-minds of all the ages wrought
For God's own truth, forgetting self and consequence.

—Pittsburg Dispatch.

RUDYARD KIPLING AND THE PUTNAMS

The Poet's Lawsuit Discredited in the Federal Courts.

It is by no means news that a man may have very striking gifts of literary expression without on that account being possessed of sound judgment in the ordinary affairs of life. But it must be lamented by a wide circle of readers that it should be at the expense of Rudyard Kipling that this moral should just now be pointed.

He brought a suit against Messrs. Putnam for making a use of which he disapproved of sheets of his works which they had bought and paid for, and had subsequently put into what they regarded as the most convenient and attractive form, in uniform binding.

Mr. Kipling evidently sincerely thought he had a grievance. He even undertook, at the time he brought his suit, to explain what it was. Very few of the readers of his explanation, we think, could make it out, and they inferred that, since there could be no question of his powers of exposition, the trouble must be with his case.

Now, that is what two courts have very emphatically decided, namely, that the author had no case at all. At the trial Judge Lacombe took the case away from the jury on the ground that there was no evidence on the plaintiff's part to go to that body, and directed a verdict for the defendant. And now the United States circuit court has affirmed his decision on appeal.

There was a peculiar unpleasantness about this lawsuit against this particular publishing house, because it was the

American publishing house which, in the person of its senior partner, George Haven Putnam, had labored longest and most earnestly for a real and substantial international copyright.

Nobody had done more to procure the enactment of the very law that gave Mr. Kipling any standing in an American court and enabled him to sue. The decision is gratifying on this account. Since Mr. Kipling has failed to induce any expert and impartial person to agree with him that he had a case, it is to be hoped that he will accept the unanimous voice of such persons that he has not, and make such amends to a firm of honorable publishers as the circumstances admit.—New York Times.

In the Public Eye.

Miss Taka Nawa, daughter of a well-known Japanese editor and entomologist, is herself an entomologist of no mean attainments. She paints with skill and has made many colored plates of nature insects, especially butterflies and moths. She shares her father's interest in photography, and has assisted him in his greatest work of photographing the life histories of most of the Japanese insects injurious to agriculture.

Cardinal Parocchi's death has reduced the number of cardinals to fifty-eight, of whom thirty-two are Italians. Only one of the cardinals created by Pope Pius IX is now living.